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patient's symptoms in the doctor's absence. Is not such a nurse a physician's "First Aid" in restoring his patient to life and health? The patient and the family will usually appreciate her, and will employ her again when needing a nurse.

Years of bedside experience do not count for nought. Some of our best and most useful lessons we have learned in the homes long after we left the training school and were thrown on our own resources. No nurse ever has, or ever will, learn all she needs to know about nursing in a training school. So keep your heads cool and your feet warm and keep on learning. Do not be puffed up with a little praise or too much depressed by a little criticism, for you will get your share of each and we need them both in our business. Do not worry if your hair is gray. "The hoary head is a crown of glory when found in the way of righteousness." Let us all have those graces which do not grow old—an unaffected disposition, lively wit, original character, and an even and agreeable temper.

Illinois.

"TOMMY" R. N.

AROUND-THE-WORLD LETTERS

(Extracts from letter dated January 7.)

DEAR EDITOR: Japan in summer and Japan in winter are two very different pictures, but it is impossible to arrange a world cruise and get the best season in each part. I am almost ashamed to say that my first impression of the Japanese was of a swarm of men, women and children with babies strapped on their backs, and every one under ten or twelve years of age with frightful running noses. They all looked cold, and their bare feet, on the odd little wooden platforms they wear for shoes, were blue with the cold. We had reached Nagasaki, our first Japanese port, on a cold rainy morning, early. It was an unfavorable beginning, but we soon learned what a difference the people themselves make, regardless of the weather. We were received with bows and smiles wherever we went, and I have never seen so many happy, playful children. When we passed in our jinrickshaws, they raised their heads straight in the air, shouting "Banzai," which means hurrah, or something equally pleasant. It is almost impossible to find out things, because even the students of the Commercial College, who acted as unpaid guides, though able to tell things they thought of, when asked a question looked puzzled and did not seem to understand, while the coolies say yes to everything.

In the afternoon the weather cleared, and we were received by the Mayor, who explained to us that as it was New Year's, one of the greatest of their holidays, he regretted that the people could not interrupt their customary festivities to receive us as they would like, so that all he could offer for our entertainment was an exhibition of dancing by Geisha girls. It was charmingly graceful. I doubt if any other women in the world have such dainty and expressive little hands. After the dance we had tea. The more the quaint simplicity of the people was revealed to us, through their manner and dress, through fleeting glimpses we had through tiny open doors, and through their artistic taste displayed in their gardens and in the products of their skill, the more we liked them.

In the evening we returned from the ship, where we had gone for dinner,

to an entertainment at the Y. M. C. A. As we crossed in the little tender, we saw winding along the hilly side of the town a myriad of lights, bobbing and dancing like huge fireflies. We came ashore, and sitting perched up in our rickshaws, watched this procession come down the steep street. As they neared the waiting crowd, shouts of Banzai! Banzai! went up. My coolie, with much gesticulation, made it clear to me that I must do the same. Soon we were all laughing and shouting and carrying lanterns on slender bamboo rods, and off we were again. At the Y. M. C. A. the entertainment consisted of characteristic dancing in old Japanese style. This dance, accompanied by music and colloquial song, is not intelligible even to the modern Japanese. There was solo music on stringed instruments, jiu jitsu, and fencing. The music reminds one of a large family of boys who have rifled the Christmas tree and are trying all the toy drums, fiddles and flutes. Except for a certain rhythm it is tuneless and expressionless; the voices are strained and throaty. Just as graceful as their bodies are and as artistic their handiwork, just so colorless and untuneful is their musical expression.

CHARLOTTE EHELICHER.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

MICHIGAN

THE Michigan State Board of Registration of Nurses will hold a registration meeting on August 29 for graduate nurses. This meeting will be held at the state capitol, Lansing. There will be but one more opportunity after this meeting for graduate nurses to register in this state without examination, and the last meeting has been set for November 27, 1912.